THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. which is the State nodal agency for non-conventional energy programmes, proposes to get a technical feasibility conducted to determine daily availability of offerings such as flowers, curd, milk, etc. at Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain, estimated quantity of bio-gas and electricity to be generated, project cost etc.

(d) No, Sir.

Electrification of villages in H.P.

2943. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Villages, per district proposed to be electrified during the current year in the State of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the details of budget allocated and the amount of money spent on the same;

(c) number of villages still to be electrified in the State; and

(d) the steps taken to electrify all the villages in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB) has proposed to electrify 8 villages during 2002-03. District-wise details are given below:

Kinnaur	3
Lahaul Spiti	2
Chamba	3

(b) The allocation and release of funds during the current year is indicated in the Table below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Allocation	Release
1. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY)	110.00	55.00
2. Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)	200.00	100.00
TOTAL	Rs. 310.00	Rs. 155.00

(c) As per Central Electricity Authority there are 107 un-electrified villages as on 31st October, 2002.

(d) As agreed to in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 3rd March, 2001, Government of Himachal Pradesh would be completing electrification of all villages by 2007 and coverage of all households by 2012. Government of India has taken the following initiatives to accelerate the pace of rural electrification which the State Government of Himachal Pradesh can avail of:

Rural Electrification is now treated as a Basic Minimum Service and has been included under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) from the year 2001-02. State has been given the discretion to allocate funds on priority for rural electrification.

Budgetary allocation under MNP for rural electrification has been enhanced during the year 2002-03.

States can also access funds from Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for the programme.

REC have formulated new schemes for electrification of dalit bastis and hamlets at lower rate of interest.

First batch of CEAs operating under BEE

2944. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is likely to have the first batch of Certified Energy Auditors (CEAs) operating under the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) by the year 2003;

(b) whether this scheme is designed to reduce/eliminate waste in electricity, especially in large industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the expected percentage of saving in consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The scheme regarding conduct of energy audit by accredited energy auditors is designed to reduce wasteful use of both